358

C 14813

008

FORM NO. 51-4AA
FEB 1952

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Gorkiy Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 6 February 1953

SUBJECT German Experts Detained in the OKB Institute in Gorkiy-Karpovka

NO. OF PAGES 3

25X1C INTELLIGENCE

DATE OF INFO. [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. 2 (Attachment 1 to @ only)
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1A
25X1X PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

[redacted]

1. The Optytnyy Konstruktsionyy Byuro (Experimental Design Bureau) (OKB) in Gorkiy (56-19N,43-51E) was a laboratory for the construction of condensers and resistors.[1] It was set up by seven deported German experts in the Lenin Plant in 1947. The Lenin Plant, also referred to as the Radio Zavod, was located together with the Frunze Plant in Gorkiy/Muza in the western portion of a large industrial area. The OKB was directly assigned to the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry at No 4 Bolshoy Cherkasskiy Paslot in Moscow. During 1949 and 1950, A.A. Turchanin represented the OKB at the ministry. The deported Germans lived in a sanatorium on the Volga River, about 20 kilometers southeast of Gorkiy.

2. Thirty German experts were deported to Gorkiy/Karpovka in October 1946. Twenty-three of them (high frequency engineers) were immediately assigned to an institute at the Frunze Plant; the remaining seven, most of whom were experts on condensers, were not detailed until March 1947, when the institute OKB at the Lenin Plant was founded.[2] At first, the latter group was given two rooms in a four-story building at the Lenin Plant where they had to write studies in their special fields. The laboratory, equipped only with one lathe and a vise in the summer of 1947, was gradually furnished with instruments and tools from the Siemens Plants in Gera and Berlin and from the Oberspreewerke and the Lorenz Plant in Berlin.

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

INTELLIGENCE

STATE	x	NAVY	x	NSRB															
ARMY @	x	AIR @	x	FBI															

3. By mid-1948, the institute was completely equipped and development work on condensers and resistors was started. The equipment of the condenser section included a vaporization plant for the production of metallic paper condenser, the value of which was estimated at 50,000 Reichsmark.[3] Furthermore, there were several capacity and power factor measuring bridges and various testing installations available. [redacted] never entered the Lenin and the Frunze Plants, nor the institute where the high frequency team worked.

25X1X

4. In 1947, Dr. Eng Werner Hermann was chief of the group. Otto Biersack wrote a study on metallic paper, ceramic, and mica condensers. Styroflex and metallized paper condensers were the subject of Dr. Eng Christian Wachenhausen's study; Dr. Physics Matthias Falter wrote about resistors, and Dr. Werner Holzmueller about ceramic substances. Dr. Schloehmilch (fnu), an expert in the field of diodes and copper oxide rectifiers, was to set up a chemical laboratory but was transferred to Institute 160 in Moscow/Fryazino in 1948 before he was able to carry out the order.

5. By the end of 1947 the German engineers had to plan their research program for 1948. This program was discussed in conferences with the German group. The target fixed was to be achieved easily. Thus, the German engineers intended to avoid being charged with sabotage. The Soviet plant director forwarded the program to the ministry in Moscow, which approved the plans except for slight modifications. These developments generally did not exceed the status of German developments reached by the end of the war. [redacted] believed that the Soviets only intended to learn the technical know-how and to train young Soviet engineers with the group. There was no discernible connection between the activities of the OKB and the general Soviet development and the activities of the Lenin Plant.

25X1X

6. Major projects at the institute included Engineer Otto Biersack's development of a vaporization system for metallic paper condensers. On Soviet request zinc was to be used for the metallic coating. Biersack advised the Soviets against the use of aluminum for this coating because he did not want to be engaged in problems arising with the vaporization of this metal. The efforts resulted in a rolled block type condenser with aluminum casing. Soviet director Ikonnikov (fnu), was especially interested in Engineer Paul Werner's experiments to reconstruct electrolytic condensers of an especially high capacity patterned on a system which was under development at the Siemens Plant during the war. However, both experiments failed, as the condensers did not remain constant in capacity. German test terms were used for the construction and testing of condensers. These terms included a temperature resistance within a range of 40 to 50° C below zero up to 60° C above zero. Standard equipment for shaking tests was also available. Dr. Werner Holzmueller, a former member of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, worked on ferrites for coil cores; he was called back to the USSR when on the way home in December 1950. Having repeatedly emphasized their need of technical material, the German group was finally provided with a small library including construction directives which arrived with dismantled German machinery. These records were translated and incorporated into the library. Technical magazines available included Elektrichestvo and several foreign magazines, among them Electronics and other chemical publications. [redacted] read books and articles on condensers by Renner (fnu), a Soviet graduate of sciences at the Leningrad University.

25X1X

7. Plant director Ikonnikov (fnu) was a mechanic who was assigned to his position because of his political activities. His duties as director of the institute were limited to the transmission of German reports to Moscow and to the execution of orders received from there. He was to take over the condenser department after the Germans had left. In March 1947 Soviet personnel at the institute included a female interpreter and a mechanic. Additional Soviet mechanics arrived during 1947; and, starting with 1948, male and female engineers and technicians who had just graduated from high schools and technical institutes were assigned to the institute for practical training. By the end of 1948, there

25X1A

were from 20 to 30 Soviet engineers, technicians, and mechanics employed at the institute.

8. In 1949, a female Soviet engineer arrived from Leningrad to procure machinery for an institute there. She stated that this Leningrad institute also developed construction methods for condensers and that the German Trebes (fnu) and Eng. Helmut Rothweiler were engaged in this project. After his return to Germany, [redacted] learned that Trebes, who had signed a contract to work in Leningrad in October 1946, had returned and lived in Western Germany. Rothweiler, a condenser expert, now lives in Gera.

25X1X

25X1A

25X1X 1. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] the Lenin Plant was located west of the road in the indicated area, and the Frunze Plant east of it. See Attachment No 1.

25X1A

2. [redacted] Comment: A PW returnee stated that in early 1949 30 German engineers living in Kstovo commuted to Gorkiy in two buses. The small expert team working at the Lenin Plant and the larger group working at the Frunze Plant were confirmed by a previous report. See Attachment No 2 for a listing of German experts working at the OKB.

25X1A

3. [redacted] Comment: Vaporization is the standard system which was developed by Bosch.

Attachments: 2

1. War-time (June 1942) aerial photograph of the Lenin Plant at Gorkiy
2. List of personnel at the OKB of the Lenin Plant, Gorkiy

Gc

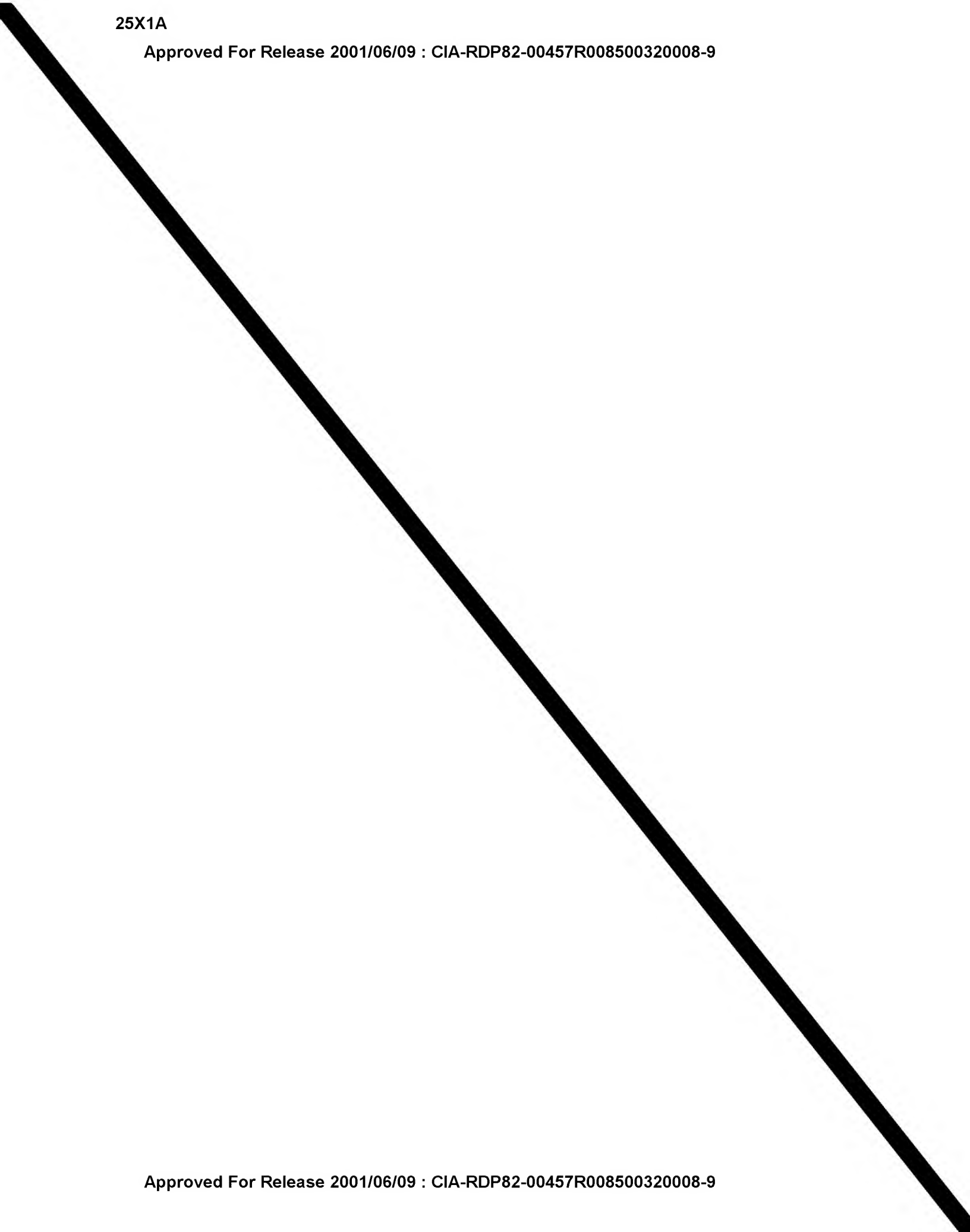
LENIN TELEPHONE AND RADIO PLANT

[redacted]

25X1A

1. ADMINISTRATION BLDG.
2. WORK SHOPS
3. WORK SHOPS
4. UTILITY BLDG.

SCALE 1:16,800



25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

Personnel of the OKB at the Lenin Plant in Gorkiy/Karpovka

Ground floor:

Mechanical workshop:	Ten Soviet mechanics
Two small laboratories:	Soviet personnel only

Second floor:

Ceramic laboratory:	Soviet personnel only
Construction office:	Six Soviet engineers.

Third floor:

Soviet director:	Ikonnikov (fnu)
Interpreter:	a Soviet woman.

Condenser Section

Chief:	Graduate Engineer Otto Biersack
Development of metallized paper condensers:	Otto Biersack Dr. Werner Hermann one Soviet female engineer two technicians two female chemists
Development of styroflex condensers:	Graduate Engineer Christian Wachenhausen two or three Soviet female technicians
Development of electrolytic condensers:	Engineer Paul Werner six or seven Soviet technicians

Resistor Section

Chief:	Dr. Matthias (or Otto) Falter
Soviet engineer:	Famina (fnu), a woman
Development of ferrites:	Dr. Werner Holzmueller one very capable Soviet engineer.

CONFIDENTIAL